Office of Pesticide Programs FY 2001 Annual Report

Partners and Stakeholders: Working Together to Protect Public Health and the Environment

CONTENTS

Dear Readers:

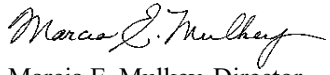
EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) is pleased to provide you with a summary of the many important accomplishments carried out during fiscal year 2001.

OPP is entrusted with responsibility for safeguarding public health and the environment from pesticide risks. We also work hard to ensure that pesticides are regulated fairly so that new technology can enter the market while also meeting the tough requirements of the Food Quality Protection Act. I am pleased to note that the accomplishments described in this report were possible because of the dedication and hard work by OPP's diverse and talented employees as well as many contributions by our regulatory partners and stakeholders.

During FY 2001, we adopted a more concise format for our annual report. While shorter in length than previous reports, it is rich in detail describing our accomplishments and progress. The first seven pages summarize registration, reregistration, and tolerance reassessment activities as well as our advancements in the area of science policy development and technology. The remaining six pages provide a snapshot of many other pesticide regulatory and program implementation activities with our regional, state, and tribal partners and many other stakeholders. To complement this report and provide you with further details about our many other important program activities, we encourage you to visit our Web site at www.epa.gov/pesticides.

Finally, September 11 abruptly changed the lives of all Americans. Our national concern for security at home and abroad is in the forefront. While EPA's broad mission has become more complex, our goals remain basic, as described by our Administrator, Christine Todd Whitman, "to make our air cleaner, our water purer, and our land better protected." To that end, I call upon your continued cooperation and support to help us bring about greater protection of public health and to safeguard the natural environment from pesticide risks.

Sincerely,



Marcia E. Mulkey, Director
Office of Pesticide Programs

EPA's Role in Regulating Pesticides

The mission of EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) is to protect human health and the environment from unreasonable adverse effects resulting from the use of pesticides. OPP's mission also assures a reasonable certainty of no harm from pesticides in the diet of all Americans, especially children. OPP regulates the use of pesticides under the authority of two major federal statutes: the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), both significantly amended by the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA). Under FIFRA, EPA has the authority to register (license) the use(s) of a pesticide and suspend or cancel the use(s) of a pesticide if its use would pose unreasonable risks. Under FFDCA, the Agency is responsible for setting tolerances (maximum permissible residue levels) for any pesticide used on food or animal feed. With the passage of FQPA, the Agency is required to establish a single, health-based standard for pesticides used on food crops and to determine if tolerances are safe for children.

The process by which OPP examines the ingredients of a pesticide to determine if they are safe is called the registration process. The program evaluates the pesticide to ensure that it will not have any adverse effects on humans, the environment, and nontarget species. Applicants seeking pesticide registration are required to submit a wide range of data on health and ecological effects, environmental fate, and product and residue chemistry. A pesticide product cannot be legally used in the United States if it has not been registered by EPA unless it is specifically exempted from regulation under FIFRA. If emergency conditions exist, EPA may allow use of an unregistered pesticide under an emergency exemption or a state may declare a crisis exemption, which allows the unregistered use for 15 days. EPA confers with the state and performs a cursory review of the use at this time.

Through a process called reregistration, OPP is reviewing older pesticides–registered before 1984–to ensure that they meet current, more stringent health and environmental standards. After reviewing a pesticide for reregistration, OPP issues a *Reregistration Eligibility Decision* (RED) document or an *Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision* (IRED) document detailing whether the pesticide can remain on the market or if changes in label instructions must be made in order to reduce risks to consumers. During reregistration, OPP also reassesses tolerances as required by FQPA to ensure that they meet current safety standards and issues *Reports on FQPA Tolerance Reassessment Progress and Interim Risk Management Decisions* (Tolerance Reassessment Eligibility Documents [TREDs]). To date, OPP has reassessed almost 4,000 of the 9,721tolerances requiring reassessment.

The Office of Pesticide Programs

Antimicrobials Division - 703-308-6411. Responsible for all regulatory activities associated with antimicrobial pesticides.

Biological and Economic Analysis Division 703 - 308-8200. Responsible for assessing pesticide use and benefits and operating analytical chemistry and antimicrobial testing laboratories.

Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division - 703-308-8712. Responsible for all regulatory activities associated with microbial pesticides, biochemical pesticides, and plant-pesticides, and for the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program.

Environmental Fate and Effects Division - 703-305-7695. Responsible for evaluating and validating data submitted on the environmental fate and effects of pesticides on nontarget organisms, as well as for characterizing risks to such nontarget organisms.

Field and External Affairs Division - 703-305-7102. Responsible for program policies and regulations; legislation and Congressional interaction; regional, state, and tribal coordination and assistance; international and field programs; and communication outreach.

Health Effects Division - 703-305-7351. Responsible for evaluating and validating data on the effects of pesticides, as well as for characterizing risks to humans and domestic animals.

Information Resources and Services Division - 703-305-5440. Responsible for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Public Docket Management, databases and computer support, FIFRA section 6(a)(2) incident reporting, pesticide incident monitoring, and National Pesticide Information Center.

Registration Division - 703-305-5447. Responsible for all regulatory activities for all pesticides not assigned to the Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division or the Antimicrobials Division.

Special Review and Reregistration Division - 703-308-8000. Responsible for reregistration, tolerance reassessment, and Special Reviews.

20 Active Ingredients Registered

•12 Conventional Pesticide Active Ingredients (includes 1 organophosphate alternative and 4 reduced-risk pesticides):

Chemical/Use
– Picaridin/Insect Repellent
–Thiamethoxam/Barley (seed), Canola (seed), Cotton (seed), Sorghum (seed), Wheat (seed)
–Chlorfenapyr/Ornamentals (greenhouse)
–Ethametsulfuron Methyl/Canola, Crambe, Rapeseed
–Zoxamide/Potatoes, Grapes
–Flumioxazin/Soybeans (seed), Peanuts
–Mesotrione/Field Corn
–Tepraloxydim/Canola, Cotton, Soybeans
–Fluazinam/Peanuts, Potatoes
–Etofenprox/Crack and Crevice
–Bispyribac-Sodium/Rice
–Novaluron/Ornamentals (indoor, nonfood)

•7 Biopesticides:

Chemical/Use
–Coniothyrium minitans/Sclerotinia in soils
–Cry1F in corn/European corn borer
–4- (or 5-) Chloro-2-methylcyclohexane-carboxylic acid, 1,1-dimethyl ester/Medfly pheromone
–(Z) -11-Hexdecenyl Acetate/Diamondback moth
–Silver Nitrate/Prolongs life of cut flowers
–4-allyanisole/Southern pine beetle
–Pseudomonas chlororaphis strain 63-28/Common fungal pests

•1 Antimicrobial:

Chemical/Use
–Oxonia Active/Disinfectant (hard, nonporous inanimate surfaces in lifestock facilities)

New Pesticides Registered and Other Registration-Related Actions

www.epa.gov/pesticides/hemreg.htm

Pesticide products contain both "active" and "inert" ingredients. An active ingredient is one that prevents, destroys, repels, or mitigates a pest, or is a plant regulator, defoliant, desiccant, or nitrogen stabilizer. By law, the active ingredient must be identified by name on the label, together with its percentage by weight. An inert ingredient is simply any ingredient in the product that is not intended to affect a target pest (e.g., a solvent). Highlights of pesticide products registered in FY 2001 include:

Methyl Bromide Alternatives

•Two new products (InLine® and Telone EC®) containing the active ingredient 1,3-dichloropropene (Telone®) as a pre-plant soil fumigant allow drip application to tarped soil, primarily for use on strawberries and tomatoes.

•Terramaster®, a terrazole-containing product for use as a soil sterilant for tobacco crops, allows tobacco transplants to be grown in a float-bed system.

Foot and Mouth Disease Antimicrobial

• Oxonia Active to disinfect hard, nonporous inanimate surfaces in livestock facilities and animal quarters, and on equipment against the potential spread of the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) virus.

Organophosphate (OP) Alternative

•Thiamethoxam as an insecticide on seeds of barley, canola, cotton, sorghum, and wheat.

New Reduced-Risk Pesticides

•Fluazinam as a fungicide on potatoes and peanuts.
•Mesotrione as an herbicide on field corn.
•Zoxamide as a fungicide on grapes.
•Novaluron as an insecticide on ornamentals (indoor, nonfood).

Insecticide Products Packaging Reexamined to Protect Children

In FY 2001, OPP began reviewing conventional insecticide products labeled for residential use to determine whether the containers meet today's Child Resistant Packaging (CRP) requirements. The Agency identified and required registrants of more than 160 products to make the necessary changes (e.g., changing container size, adding a child resistant cap, or deleting residential uses) to protect children.

USDA Meritious Award Presented to OPP's Registration Division

USDA Interregional Project #4 (IR-4) awarded OPP's Registration Division the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of the most productive year in the 30-year history of cooperation between OPP and IR-4. OPP's partnership with IR-4 over the last few years has resulted in many conventional, "reduced-risk," alternatives to OP and carbamate pesticides' becoming available to minor use crop growers.

OPP's FY 2002 workplan for reviewing applications and making decisions on conventional pesticides can be accessed online at:
www.epa.gov/opprd001/workplan

257 New Uses of Registered Active Ingredients

•248 New Uses of Conventional Pesticides (includes 77 reduced-risk pesticide uses, 69 OP alternative uses, 3 methyl bromide alternative uses, 99 IR-4 minor uses)

•9 New Uses of Antimicrobials

80 Other (Inert) Ingredients in Pesticide Products Approved

•72 Nonfood-Use Inert Ingredients

•8 New Food-Use Inerts (with tolerance exemptions established)

542 Emergency Exemptions Granted

(In addition, 33 tolerances were established for emergency exemptions)

1,726 Antimicrobials Registration Decisions

OPP met the FQPA-mandated deadlines for reviewing antimicrobials for public health use:

•180 Old Chemicals (89 fast-track and 91 nonfast-track)

•1,013 Amendments (890 fast-track and 123 nonfast-track)

•533 Notifications

Pesticides Reregistered and Tolerances Reassessed

www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration

Pesticide Reregistration

•Completed Reregistration Eligibility Decision (REDs) documents for 3 pesticide active ingredients: benomyl, propargite, and ethion (an OP).

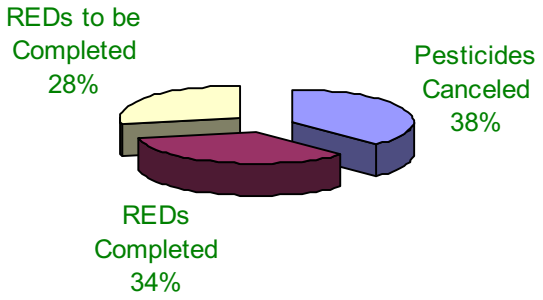
•Issued Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decisions (IREDs) for 6 organophosphate pesticides: acephate, chlorpyrifos, ethoprop, methidathion, pirimiphos-methyl, and terbufos. Organophosphates (OPs) are potentially the most toxic pesticides and are in FQPA Priority Group 1– the first group of pesticides to be reviewed.

•Made reregistration decisions on 856 pesticide products, exceeding goal of 750 decisions: 63 product labels were amended, 613 products were canceled (includes 387 chlorpyrifos products), and other types of reregistration actions were taken for 180 additional products. (One pesticide active ingredient may be used in 10 or more pesticide products, thus requiring reregistraton decisions for all products after a RED has been completed for the active ingredient.)

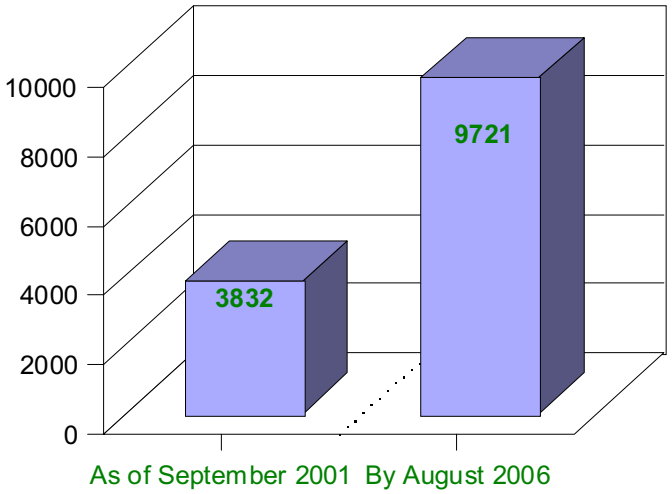
Tolerance Reassessment

•Issued 5 Reports on FQPA Tolerance Reassessment Progress and Interim Risk Management Decisions (TREDs): butylate (thiocarbamate), chlorpyrifos-methyl (OP), oxadixyl, phosalone (OP), and trichlorfon (OP).

Status of Pesticide Reregistration



Tolerance Reassessment Status



By August 2006, EPA must complete the review of all tolerances that were in effect in August 1996 when FQPA was passed.

•Completed tolerance reassessment decisions for 5 pesticides, bringing the total of tolerances reassessed up to 3,832. This represents 39 percent of the 9,721 tolerances that require reassessment by 2006. Over 63 percent of these decisions were for pesticides in FQPA Priority Group 1.

Review of Organophosphate (OP) Pesticides

•Completed individual decisions for 25 OPs.

•Continued to develop scientific methods and the components of a cumulative risk assessment for the OPs. Cumulative risk assessment combines exposure (the amount of a pesticide to which an individual is exposed) and hazard (the potential health effects of a pesticide) from all substances that share a common pathway of toxicity.

•Issued the science policy on *Cumulative Hazard and Dose-Response Assessment for Organophosphorus Pesticides* in August 2001.

www.epa.gov/pesticides/cumulative

Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) Reassessment

•Completed comprehensive reassessment of conditionally registered, genetically engineered Bt corn, cotton, and potato products. Solicited scientific peer review and public comment on the draft reassessment.

•Held a public briefing to present the final reassessment and potential regulatory options for conditionally registered Bt products.

•Sought and made available to the public data on the potential effects of Bt corn on monarch butterflies. The data that were analyzed showed "no significant risk" to monarch butterflies from the use of Bt corn.

•Made provisions to strengthen insect resistance management, increase grower awareness and compliance, and continue Bt research.

•Required registrants to conduct monitoring of potential impacts from the continued use of the products.

•Required registrants to educate growers about their responsibilities in planting and harvesting plant-incorporated protectants.

www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopesticides

Advancements in Science and Technology

www.epa.gov/pesticides/science.htm

Test Methods for Public Health Pesticides

•Developed guidance for Agency scientists to use while reviewing new protocols for testing the efficacy of pesticides.

•Eliminated phenol-resistance tests for disinfectants and pesticides used as sanitizers because it was difficult to maintain and propagate test cultures to obtain consistent results.

New Tools for Estimating Ecological Risks

•Developed preliminary terrestrial and aquatic probabilistic models which estimate the magnitude, probability, and certainty of ecological risk. These models were strongly supported by the Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) and well received by the international community. They are currently being revised based on internal and peer review comments.

•Developed a case study for refining risk assessments which was peer reviewed and strongly supported by the SAP.

•Sponsored a workshop on refining the risk assessment of the pesticide atrazine, where the registrant's risk assessment was analyzed.

•Provided training on refining risk assessments to scientists and risk managers making decisions.

Enhancements to OPP's Web Site www.epa.gov/pesticides

- Searchable database for FIFRA Section 18 Emergency Exemptions: **www.epa.gov/opprd001/section18**
- Searchable database for Food and Feed Commodity Vocabulary: **www.epa.gov/pesticides/foodfeed**
- "Test Your Knowledge" on the kids' Web site: **www.epa.gov/opptintr/kids/hometour**
- Tolerance Reassessment page that tracks actions and offers reports: **www.epa.gov/pesticides/tolerance**
- Pesticide Product Label System (PPLS) database index: **www.epa.gov/pesticides/pestlabels**
- Pesticide Analytical Methods and Procedures: **www.epa.gov/oppbead1/methods**
- Pesticide Product Information System (PPIS) (updated): **www.epa.gov/opppmsd1/PPISdata/index.html**
- Public-Private Partnerships for Reducing Pesticide Risk Web site: **www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/partnerships**
- Integrated Pest Management Web site: **www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/ipm/index.htm**
- Models for estimating pesticides in ground and surface waters, with spray drift scenarios: **www.epa.gov/oppefed1/models/water/index.htm**

In FY 2001, OPP received positive reactions from individuals who are participating in the ongoing electronic data submission and review pilot programs. We encourage all registrants to submit studies electronically in Portable Document Format (PDF) since electronic review is both efficient and effective.

www.epa.gov/oppfead1/edsgoals.htm

Photo by Sony

In FY 2001, international video teleconferencing capability was added, reducing travel expenses and allowing more staff to participate in meetings with other countries. The first international teleconference was with India.

Pesticide Registration (PR) Notices
www.epa.gov/PR_Notices

1/01 - PR Notice 2001-1- First Aid Statements on Pesticide Product Labels.

1/01- PR Notice 2001-2 - Acute Toxicity Data Requirements for Granular Pesticide Products, Including Those with Granular Fertilizers in the Product.

1/01- PR Notice 2001-3 - Insect Repellents: Labeling Restrictions for Use on Infants and Children and Restrictions on Food Fragrances and Colors.

1/01- Draft PR Notice for public comment - Describes how to label pesticide products for National Organic Program.

6/01- PR Notice 2001-4 - Elimination of Phenol Resistance Testing for Antimicrobial Disinfectant and Sanitizer Pesticides.

8/01- PR Notice 2001-5 - Provides guidance for Pesticide Registrants on Pesticide Resistance Management Labeling.

8/01 - Draft PR Notice for public comment - Spray and Dust Drift Label Statements for Pesticide Products.

9/01 - PR Notice 2001-6 - Disposal Instructions on Residential/Household Use Products.

10/01 - Draft PR Notice for public comment - Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice and Standard Operating Procedure for Submitting, Processing, and Reviewing Requests for Threshold of Regulation.

Final Regulations
www.epa.gov/fedrgstr

7/01 - Regulating Plant-Incorporated Protectants

Partners and Stakeholders Working Together

Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP)

•Under PESP partnership, provided funding for the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives to explore how farmer cooperatives can play a greater role in developing, promoting, and marketing biopesticides and other "reduced-risk" pesticide alternatives in the best interest of their members. For example, the National Grape Cooperative and a registrant held field trials and a grower field day to demonstrate how to use the harpin protein product, Messenger®, and how to increase crop yields. This product uses natural defense mechanisms against a broad spectrum of viral, fungal, and bacterial diseases,

•With the American Farmland Trust, provided funding to pear growers in Washington's Yakima Valley who experimented with pheromones to disrupt the mating and reproduction of codling moths. Between 1997 and 2001, the growers' use of pheromones reduced their organophosphate use by over 30 percent (an average savings of $22/acre) and increased the effectiveness of pest control as well as the quality and quantity of their pears.

•Provided funding to PESP partner Lodi-Woodbridge Wine Grape Commission, which developed and is implementing the *Lodi Wine Growers Workbook: A self-assessment of integrated farming practices (IFP).* The workbook addresses pest management practices, including, monitoring and using economic thresholds, selecting pesticides, determining alternatives to pesticide use, calibrating sprayers, ensuring worker safety, and properly storing pesticides.

The Commission is distributing the workbook in small workshops of 5-10 growers at a time. Growers can use the workbook as a tool to develop their own action plan, and the workbook also provides a baseline measure of the integrated farming practices adopted for measuring future progress.

www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/partnerships

IR-4/Cal-DPR/EPA Workshare

• A partnership funded by EPA, IR-4, and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (Cal-DPR) resulted in establishing tolerances for 51 new uses of pesticides for minor use crops. With crop-group tolerances, this will allow for the registration of approximately 200 crop uses. In this workshare project, Cal-DPR reviews IR-4 residue data, and EPA ultimately establishes tolerances measuring future progress.

Partners to Divert StarLink Corn from the Food Supply

•Worked with food industry and federal partners (USDA, FDA, and CDC) to identify and divert from the food supply trace amounts of StarLink corn, the *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) corn product that was registered for animal feed and industrial uses but not for human consumption (a limited registration). Efforts coordinated to address the StarLink issue included the following:

–Canceled StarLink registration at the registrant's request.

–Announced that the Agency would no longer grant limited registrations for plant-incorporated protectants as was done for StarLink.

–Determined that there was not enough scientific evidence to justify granting a limited tolerance for the remaining traces of StarLink corn in the food supply.

–Required extensive testing of corn grain for the presence of StarLink.

–Held two Scientific Advisory Panel meetings to review the scientific assessments on exposure and allergenic potential of the protein Cry9C.

–Investigated reports of allergic reactions to corn products. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was able to determine that food containing StarLink corn did not cause any allergic reaction in people who reported having reactions after consuming corn products. The Agency believes the risks of allergenicity, if any, are extremely low.

•Conducted a thorough analysis of the wet milling process of StarLink corn, enabling the Agency to conclude that there is virtually no detectable presence of any protein in corn products produced by wet milling.

www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopesticides

Partners in Assessing Pesticide Use

•Engaged stakeholders in assessing actual use and potential benefits of more than 40 uses of two important organophosphate (OP) pesticides undergoing reregistration.

•Communicated regularly with crop experts and groups concerned about pesticide use to gain more understanding of crop practices, pests, and pest control options. Stakeholders were encouraged to review and comment on the draft benefits assessments which were posted on OPP's Web site at www.epa.gov/pesticides/cumulative.

Consumer Labeling Initiative (CLI)

•Continued to implement the CLI's "Read the Label First" consumer education campaign with regional, tribal, state, and local pesticide regulators and educators:

–Distributed over 55,000 promotional items with the EPA logo and phone number for the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), formerly the National Pesticides Telecommunications Network (NPTN), to consumers and pesticide applicators across the country.

–Displayed CLI exhibit at eight national level events.

–Included the "Read the Label First" logo in a truck ad campaign.

–Published the poster, "Use These Products Safely."

–Provided a grant to the National Safety Council for further outreach efforts.

www.epa.gov/oppt/labeling.htm

Pesticide Regulatory Education Program

•Sponsored, with OECA, five training programs for state regulatory officials to promote better understanding of pesticide issues.

Pesticide Handlers and Worker Protection

•Began a national assessment to evaluate and suggest improvements to pesticide worker protection activities by conducting workshops attended by stakeholders including states, EPA regions, and worker advocates.

•Held a national Pesticide Applicators Training and Certification Workshop with Texas extension agents and representatives from Canada and Mexico to discuss greater coordination of agricultural workers protection efforts and the development of a core examination for pesticide applicators in Canada and the United States.

www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety

Tribal Partners

• Provided funding, for the sixth year, to eligible tribal governments or inter-tribal consortia that are working on or plan to carry out projects in support of the development of a pesticide program on tribal lands.

•Piloted a project on Native American reservations in Arizona, Washington, and Idaho, to educate healthcare providers in identifying, treating, and preventing acute pesticide poisonings.

Partners to Protect the Food Supply from Pesticide Misuse

•EPA reinforced partnerships with other federal, state, and local government agencies, and pesticide manufacturers to protect the U.S. food supply from the improper use of the restricted-use pesticide zeta-cypermethrin. Sold under trade names Fury® and Mustang®, zeta-cypermethrin was illegally applied to wheat in Mississippi and Arkansas. EPA and FDA led negotiations with the registrant that resulted in an unprecedented multimillion-dollar wheat buy-back agreement.

CCA-Treated Wood

•Reached an agreement with the American Wood Preservers Institute (AWPI) to increase safety for individuals who handle CCA-treated wood:

–Wood preservers volunteered to label CCA-treated wood.

–Retailers volunteered to display signs over storage bins containing such wood and to distribute consumer safety information sheets to buyers of CCA-treated wood.

–EPA and AWPI made available CCA information on Web sites and publicized toll-free numbers to AWPI and NPIC.

www.epa.gov/pesticides/citizens/1file.htm

Pilot Drinking Water Monitoring Program with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and USDA

•Designed a pilot drinking water program to collect surface water monitoring data at five sites in the United States. Information from the program will help the Agency better understand how frequently pesticides should be monitored in drinking water.

•Obtained results from OPP-USGS study measuring concentrations of 197 pesticides and their breakdown compounds in drinking water. The results will be applied to mathematical models used to estimate exposure in pesticide registration and reregistration.

•Worked with USDA to develop 45 standard crop scenarios for use in assessing pesticide exposures in surface water. These scenarios will make OPP's water assessments for different pesticides consistent with respect to the specific crop and the soil in which it is grown.

•Working with USGS, OPP completed the pilot reservoir program which monitored raw and finished water in 12 reservoirs across the United States. The results of this monitoring study were analyzed and made public in 2001. The index reservoir scenario was also incorporated into the Agency's aquatic exposure models to refine drinking water assessments.

USGS and EPA Partner to Protect Endangered Species

•Initiated work under an Interagency Agreement for cartographic services to develop county-level maps aimed at protecting endangered species. Geographic Information System (GIS) county-level maps depict species habitat where pesticide use may be limited to protect listed endangered species.

• In coordination with USGS, began developing for public use information bulletins containing county maps, specific steps pesticide users can take to protect the endangered species, and the specific pesticide uses that may be limited.

Report on State and Local Partners' Clean Sweep Programs

•Documented state and local programs' successes across the country in collecting unwanted agricultural pesticides. Over the past 20 years, more than 24 million pounds of pesticides that otherwise could wind up as pollution have been collected and properly disposed of or recycled.

A report on these cooperative programs examines success from national, state, and local perspectives and will be available by March 2002. A description of each Clean-Sweep program offers information on funding, operations, costs, and successes.

Building Laboratory Capacity for Testing Antimicrobials

•Worked to develop the capacity for state laboratories to test the efficacy of hospital-strength antimicrobial products. Four state laboratories–Ohio, Michigan, California, and Mississippi–received cooperative agreement funds from EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) to assist in the Agency's Antimicrobial Post-Registration Testing Program. At EPA's Environmental Science Center (ESC), OPP hosted three hands-on laboratory training sessions covering methods for testing the efficacy of these products.

www.epa.gov/oppbead1

Dental Unit Waterline Treatments

•Coordinated efforts with industry, government, and academia to develop protocols for testing antimicrobial treatments to prevent microorganism contamination of dental unit waterlines. These units deliver coolant water for high-speed dental handpieces, air-water syringes, and ultrasonic scalers.

Waterline system used in dental office hooks to dental handpieces, air–water syringes, and ultrasonic scalers.

Photo by Kristy Polittte

OPP's Kathy Seikel at the Boy Scout Jamboree in August 2001. Scouts learned about pesticides and earned Public Health Merit Badge.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools

•Funded the opening of two pilot IPM in Schools centers–Texas A&M and Purdue University (encompassing nine states) to help promote the safe use of pesticides in schools. Staff from the centers visited schools and provided training in pest management, disseminated information, created Web sites, and opened toll-free telephone lines to answer questions from school officials.

• Partnered with EPA's Region 9 to initiate an IPM in Tribal Schools pilot program at several Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) schools on the Navajo reservation. The long-term goal of this project is to provide reference materials and assistance to any tribe interested in implementing IPM practices at a tribal school.

www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/ipm/index.htm

EPA's Regional Offices Where You Live

www.epa.gov/epahome/whereyoulive.htm

EPA has10 Regional Offices. Each EPA Regional office is responsible within its states for the execution of the Agency's programs.

Global Partners

•Helped negotiate a global convention, signed by more than 90 countries to date, reducing and/or eliminating production, use, and release of 12 pesticides of global concern and establishing a mechanism by which additional pesticides may be added in the future.

•Worked with the Mexican Government to develop a national "Train-the-Trainer" educational and outreach program to promote pesticide safety in Mexico.

•Strengthened with Canada and Mexico the North American framework for regulating pesticides, which promotes a stringent standard for protecting human health and the environment while providing equal access to pest control tools throughout North America.

•Worked with Canada to develop a proposal for updating nontarget plant toxicity testing requirements. This tiered testing scheme was peer reviewed, and comments are being incorporated into OPP's proposal.

•Joined Canada and Mexico on the first successful trilateral review of a pesticide application.

•Participated in an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Workshop on Pesticide Reviews that explored ways to increase the efficiency of agricultural pesticide evaluations through improved international cooperation.

•Coordinated U.S. participation in achieving final consensus on the Globally Harmonized System for Chemical Hazard Classification and Labeling, which promotes safer transportation, handling, and use of chemicals, and reduces trade barriers.

www.epa.gov/oppfead1/international

Subscribe to our automated mailing list to receive *Pesticide Program Updates* about pesticide regulatory activities:

www.epa.gov/oppfead1/cb/csb_page/form/form.html

New Publications

www.epa.gov/oppfead1/Publications/catalog

1. *Home, Safe Home* - Poster promoting appropriate pest control and pesticide safety (English and Spanish), September 2001.

2. *Socorro! Una Cucaracha!* - Spanish translation of children's cockroach activity book, March 2001.

3. *Report on Minor Use Pesticides*, May 2001.

4. *FY 2000 Annual Report*, August 2001.

For general questions on pesticides and pesticide poisoning prevention, contact the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), formerly the National Pesticides Telecommunications Network:

Telephone: 1-800-858-7378

E-mail: npic@ace.orst.edu

Web site: http://npic.orst.edu/

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Prevention, Pesticides
and Toxic Substances (H7101)
Washington, DC 20460
735-R-01-004
January 2002

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